

METHOD FOR 3' END-LABELING RIBONUCLEIC ACIDS

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

5 Methods of end-labeling ribonucleic acids with non-radioactively labeled ribonucleotides, and particularly fluorescently labeled ribonucleotides, are provided. In the subject methods, a ribonucleic acid is contacted with a non-radioactively labeled ribonucleotide in the presence of a prokaryotic, usually bacterial, poly(A) polymerase under conditions sufficient for covalent bonding of the labeled ribonucleotide to the 3'
10 end of the ribonucleic acid to occur. Also provided are kits for practicing the subject method. The subject methods and kits find use in a variety of applications where labeling of the 3' end of a ribonucleic acid with a non-radioactive label, particularly a fluorescent label, is desired.